

LOCAL LIVING

THE EMPIRE LEGACY ISSUE



 **EMPIRE**

Set Roots For Years To Come

In the heart of the Niagara region is the charming city of Thorold — a community rich in history and brimming with culture and activity. Offering unmatched accessibility, Thorold has evolved into an ideal home for growing families and individuals in pursuit of a life of simplicity and comfort. The serene neighbourhoods, adorned with tree-lined streets and charming parks, create an inviting backdrop for a life well-lived. Here, the pace of life slows, allowing for genuine connections to flourish and for life's best moments to unfold.



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A New Community to Call Home

EMPIRE LEGACY

Where life flourishes.





EVERYTHING YOU NEED WITHIN REACH

Legacy's prime location is the ideal place to set roots for years to come. Those who call this quaint community home have access to plenty of greenspace, excellent schools, and countless retail options just a short drive away.

HISTORIC TOWN, MODERN HOMES

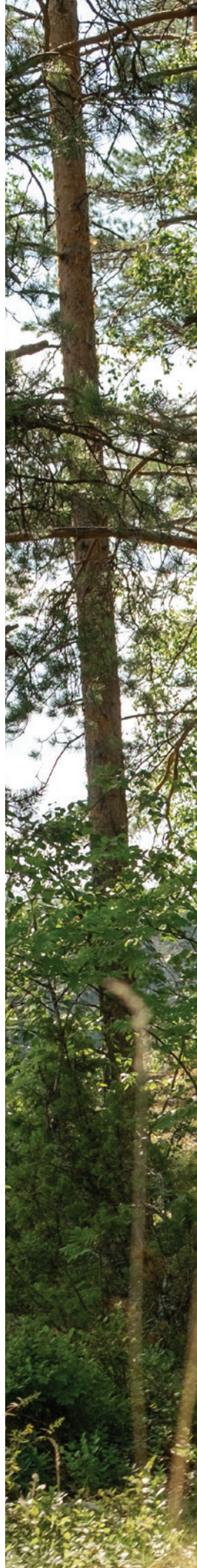
Whether you're upgrading, downsizing, or purchasing a home for the first time, Legacy's distinct floor plans will appeal to the diverse needs of your family at any stage of life.





Welcome to **Thorold**

Thorold has evolved into the perfect destination for families and individuals seeking growth and a more relaxed life. Offering a diverse range of attractions within the Niagara region, Thorold offers the perfect blend of ease and coziness, with all your essentials within reach.







LOCALS LOVE

- ✓ TIGHT-KNIT FEEL
- ✓ SERENE LANDSCAPES
- ✓ PARKS AND TRAILS
- ✓ SCENIC WATERWAYS
- ✓ CLOSE TO COVETED ATTRACTIONS

VIBE SCORE BY THE NUMBERS



34%

Family-Oriented



33%

Outdoorsy



17%

Convenient



16%

Peaceful

You Should Live Here If..



1

YOU FEEL AT HOME IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Unwind in an intimate neighbourhood filled with lush woodlands and green fields. Walk, hike or run along local trails and become immersed in the exquisiteness of the Welland Canal, right in Thorold's backyard.



2

YOU WANT TO LIVE NEAR EXCITING ATTRACTIONS YEAR-ROUND

Living in the Niagara region comes with great benefits, including quick access to theatres, a world-class casino, festivals, culture, and the scenic Horseshoe Falls. Thorold offers unparalleled access to all of Niagara's famous attractions while being nestled in a peaceful environment that's all on its own.



3

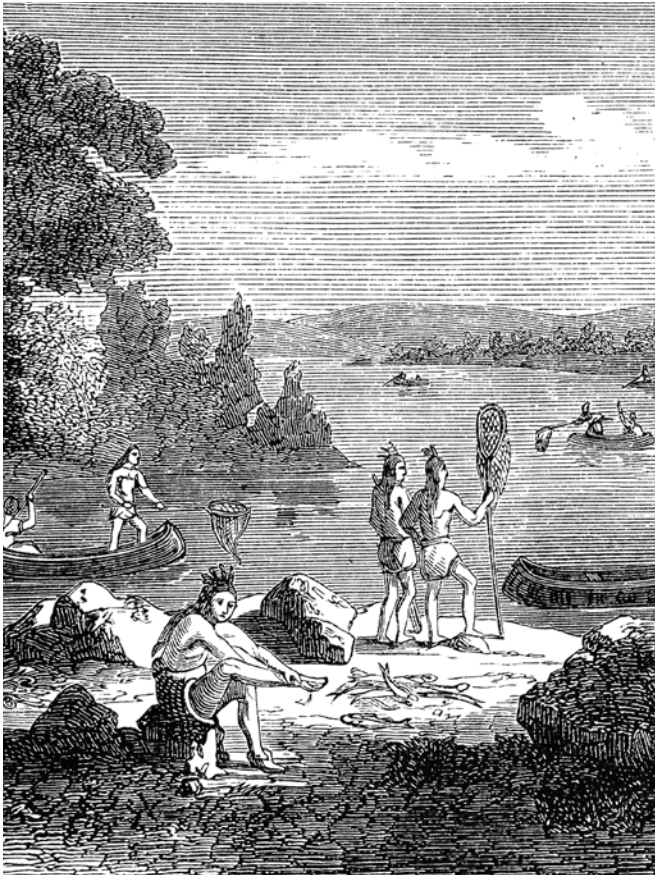
YOU WANT TO BE A PART OF SOMETHING NEW

An influx of new families in Thorold has helped revitalize the city centre. Downtown Thorold offers an array of boutiques, shops and services that have breathed new life into the community without compromising its old-world charm.



Exploring Thorold's Timeless Charm: A Glimpse Into the City's Past and Present

Thorold stands as a testament to the impact of history and progress, with a rich heritage dating back centuries. As visitors and residents explore its streets, they're met with a tangible connection to the past, a vibrant present, and a promising future. Let's take a closer look at Thorold's captivating history, tracing its journey from its humble beginnings to the bustling and diverse city it is today.



THEN / THE SITE OF COLONIAL SETTLEMENT AND INDUSTRIAL GROWTH

Thorold's history is a tapestry woven with threads of Indigenous presence, colonial settlement, and industrial growth. The story begins long before European settlers arrived, with Indigenous communities such as the Neutral Nation and the Haudenosaunee people thriving in the fertile lands along the Welland River. The area's strategic location made it a natural gathering point for trade and cultural exchange, while the arrival of European settlers marked a new chapter in Thorold's history.

NOW / A MODERN AND THRIVING COMMUNITY

Today, Thorold is a harmonious blend of historic architecture and modern infrastructure. The Welland Canal remains a vital component of the region's transportation network, standing as a testament to the enduring legacy of Thorold's industrial heritage. The heart of Thorold's downtown exudes charm with its eclectic mix of local businesses, cafes, and boutiques. The sense of community remains strong, evident in the city's various cultural festivals and events that bring residents together to celebrate their shared heritage. As Thorold looks toward the future, it continues to balance progress with preservation.



Twin Flight Locks, Welland Canal

THEN / A REMINDER OF HISTORICAL ROOTS AND ORIGIN

The town's name pays homage to Sir John Thorold, an influential member of the British Parliament in the 19th century. As the Welland Canal was constructed in the early 19th century, Thorold's significance grew as it became a pivotal point along the canal route, connecting Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. The canal brought economic prosperity and facilitated the growth of industries, turning Thorold into a bustling centre of commerce.



Construction of Welland Canal

Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division



Morningstar Mill at DeCew Falls

NOW / PRESERVING HERITAGE IN THE MODERN AGE

While Thorold has embraced progress and modernity, it demonstrates a deep commitment to preserving its heritage. Historic sites and landmarks are scattered throughout the city, serving as living testaments to its past. The Old Town Hall, an elegant building dating back to 1863, stands proudly as a reminder of Thorold's civic history. The DeCew House and DeCew Falls, both dating back to the late 18th century, provide a glimpse into the lives of early settlers and the role they played in shaping the region. Efforts to revitalize heritage buildings and enhance public spaces ensure the essence of Thorold's past remains an integral part of its present and future.



Lower DeCew Falls

Where The Locals ...



GRAB THEIR MORNING BREW

Black Sheep Coffee Roasters: Since 2015, this local coffee shop has been a fan-favourite in the Niagara area. With a focus on delicious coffee and establishing lifelong friendships with local coffee farmers, each purchase supports local and international vendors that prioritize high-quality coffee beans.

11 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

SPEND TIME WITH FAMILY

Waves Indoor Water Park: There's over 25,000 sq. ft. of fun to be had at Waves Indoor Waterpark, which features a wave pool, thrilling water slides, a giant tipping bucket, kiddie pool and more. The waterpark also offers activities for all ages.

15 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

HOST CELEBRATORY EVENTS

John-Michael's Banquet & Conference Centre: A winning combination of artisanal cuisine, impeccable service and an elegant, European-inspired ambience make John-Michael's a local favourite for hosting events.

11 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

ENJOY A GLASS OF WINE

Lundy Manor Wine Cellars: Nestled on 60 acres of lush gardens and vineyards, Lundy Manor Wine Cellars has been producing Niagara wines since 2012. Plan a visit to explore the grounds, partake in a tasting, or lounge on the patio sipping on one of their exceptional wines.

12 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY



PLAY TOURIST FOR A DAY

Clifton Hill: Niagara Falls' world-famous street of fun is a must-visit, with its wide assortment of attractions and entertainment offerings. We recommend taking a ride on the Niagara Skywheel for the best panoramic views of the Falls.

26 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

TAKE A SWING

Beechwood Golf & Social House: An 18-hole championship course with sprawling hillsides, Beechwood is open to the public and is fit for golfers of all levels.

13 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

CONNECT WITH NATURE

Mel Swart Lake Gibson Conservation Park: This serene natural oasis just minutes from Legacy offers a tranquil escape for locals and visitors alike. The park features picturesque walking trails, a scenic lake, and abundant wildlife, providing the perfect backdrop for relaxation and connecting with nature.

11 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

WATCH THE GAME

The Overtime Pub: A local favourite known for its friendly staff and quality eats, the Overtime Pub is the go-to spot to watch any major sporting event. Enjoy beer, wings, or even dessert while watching every minute of the game.

12 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

GRAB A SWEET TREAT

Four Seasons Bakery: Family-owned and operated, this local staple makes some of the freshest bread and pastries in the area. It's known for its delicious baked goods, friendly staff, and welcoming atmosphere.

8 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

GET RETAIL THERAPY

Outlet Collection at Niagara: As one of Ontario's largest open-air shopping malls, the Outlet Collection at Niagara is where you'll find an incredible selection of shops, coveted fashion brands, various sit-down and fast-food restaurants, and more.

19 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

SHOP LOCAL

St. Catharines Farmers' Market: Discover what Niagara grows, bakes, and makes at the St. Catharines Farmers' Market. Browse a diverse selection of vendors, and attend special events.

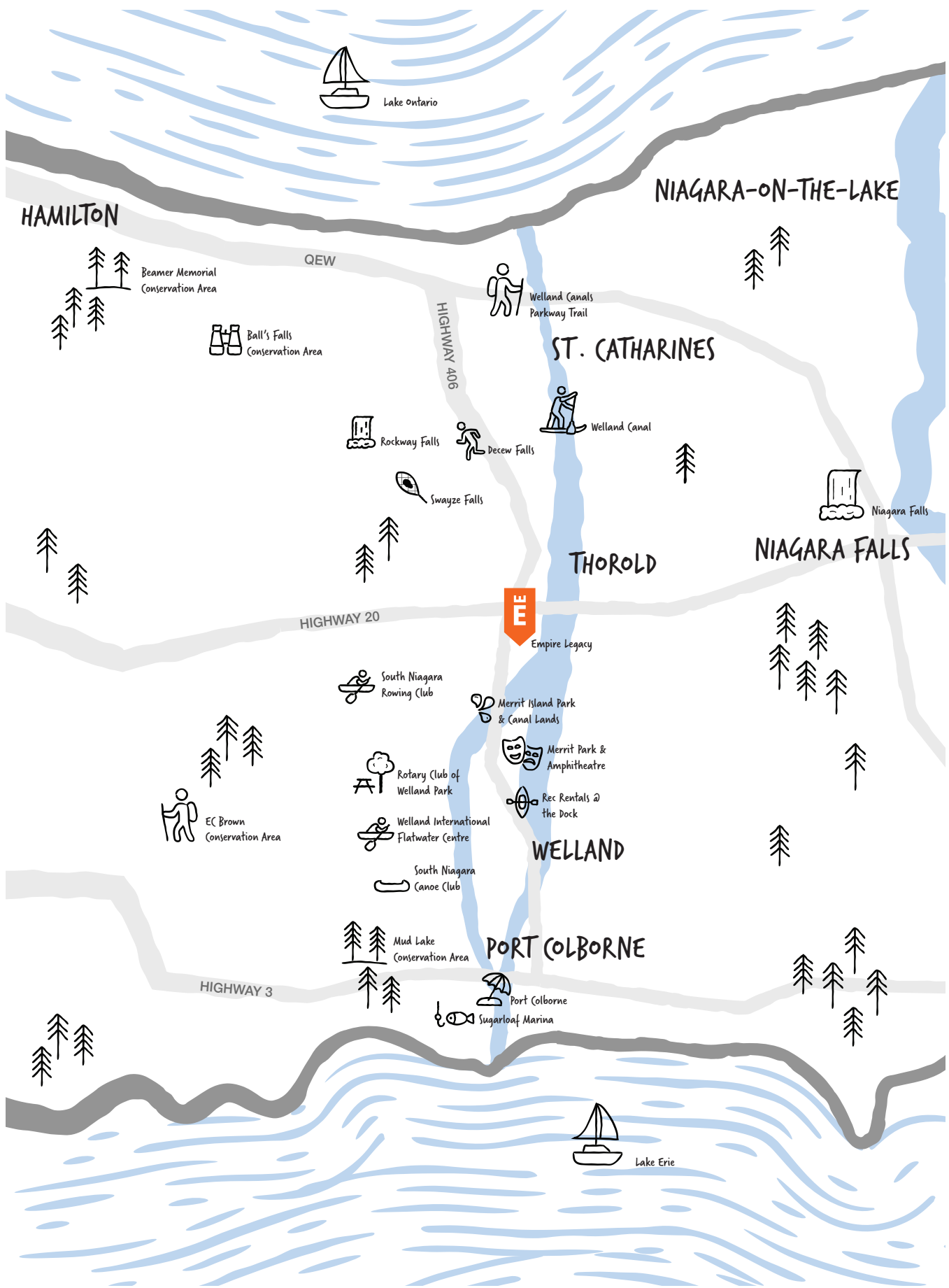
15 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY



An aerial photograph of a residential area with a large body of water and a bridge. The water is a vibrant blue-green color. The bridge is a concrete structure with a white railing. The surrounding area is lush with green trees and houses. The text "Life by the WATER" is overlaid on the image in a white, handwritten-style font.

Life by the WATER

You don't have to travel far to immerse yourself in nature when Ontario's most beautiful bodies of water are your home's backdrop. The Welland Canals, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and Niagara Falls are just some of the natural wonders moments from your front door. If you've dreamed of living near the water and are looking for a home in the Niagara region, Empire Legacy was literally designed for you. Canoe, kayak or paddleboard on the water, walk along the shore or chase Niagara's waterfalls.





Out & About

RESTAURANTS

Bezo's Bar and Grill
Cracker Jack's Bar & Grill
Pho 18
The Essential Cafe and Bakery
Thorold Fish and Chips
Tony's Pizzeria

SERVICES

Adore Advanced Medical Aesthetics
Glamour Nails and Spa
Solace Hair Studio
Thorold Family Dental
Thorold Medical Centre
Thorold Veterinary Hospital

RECREATION

Canada Games Park
DMZ Paintball & Airsoft
Niagara Falls Golf Club
Niagara Go-Karts
Thorold Community Arenas
Thorold Community Pool

PARKS & OUTDOOR SPACE

Charnwood Park
DeCew House Heritage Park
Glenridge Quarry Naturalization Site
Queen Victoria Park
Rockway Conservation Area
Short Hills Provincial Park

SHOPPING

Canada One Factory Outlets
Fonthill Shopping Centre
Seaway Mall
SmartCentres Niagara Falls
The Pen Centre
Thorold Stone Plaza

PLACES OF WORSHIP

Mosque Aisha Thorold
Niagara Hindu Samaj, Shiv Mandir
Rolling Meadows Bible Chapel
Sikh Society of Niagara Falls
St. Aloysius Parish
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

GROCERIES & DAILY ITEMS

Avondale Food Stores
Commisso's Fresh Foods
FreshCo
No Frills
Walmart Supercentre
Zehrs

FITNESS

Alchemy Yoga & Wellness Studio
Anytime Fitness
Crunch Fitness
Fonthill Fitness
Go Fitness Niagara
Relentless MMA & Fitness

Did You Know...

While it may not always be in the spotlight, Thorold holds a treasure trove of lesser-known facts that add depth to its identity. Let's uncover five intriguing things you probably didn't know about Thorold, giving you a fresh perspective on this charming destination.



1 THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD CONNECTION

Thorold played an integral role in the Underground Railroad network, providing a safe haven for escaped slaves seeking freedom. Its strategic location along the Welland Canal made it an ideal stopping point for those journeying towards Canada. Historic sites like the Salem Chapel BME Church, a designated National Historic Site, stand as a testament to Thorold's contribution to this important chapter in history.

2 THE WORLD'S SHORTEST RAILWAY

Did you know that Thorold was once home to the world's shortest railway? The "Short Line" operated from 1899 to 1970, connecting the Welland Canal with local industries. Spanning just 2.2 kilometres, this charming little railway holds a special place in the hearts of Thorold's residents, serving as a reminder of the city's industrial heritage.

3 THE OLDEST MASONIC LODGE IN CANADA

Thorold proudly hosts the oldest Masonic Lodge in Canada. St. John's Lodge No. 15, founded in 1795, boasts a rich history of fraternal brotherhood and community service. The lodge's longevity underscores its significance in shaping Thorold's social fabric and contributing to the city's sense of camaraderie.

4 COMING TOGETHER TO MAKE ONE GREAT CITY

Throughout history, Thorold was divided into two main areas — the Township of Thorold, which encompassed Allanburg, Beaverdams, Port Robinson, St. John's, and Thorold South, and the Town of Thorold. In 1970, the new Town of Thorold was created by combining the Township of Thorold and the former Town of Thorold. On the first day of July 1975, the area was named the Corporation of the City of Thorold, as we know it today.

5 THE TWIN FLIGHT LOCKS

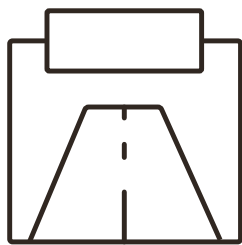
The Welland Canal's "Twin Flight Locks" are engineering marvels that often go unnoticed. These locks, located in Thorold, enable ships to overcome a significant change in elevation. Watching the massive doors swing open and the water levels adjust is a mesmerizing spectacle, showcasing the intricate balance between technology and nature.



Twin Flight Locks, Welland Canal

On The Go

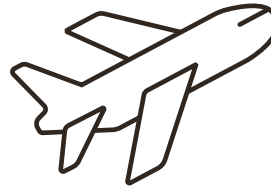
HIGHWAYS



8 minutes to Highway 406

20 minutes to QEW

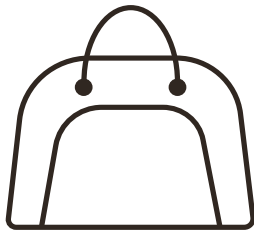
AIRPORTS



58 minutes to John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport

1 hour + 31 minutes to Pearson International Airport

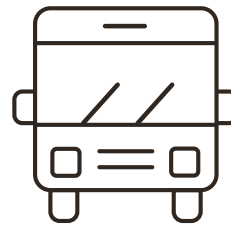
MALLS



8 minutes to Seaway Mall

19 minutes to Outlet Collection at Niagara

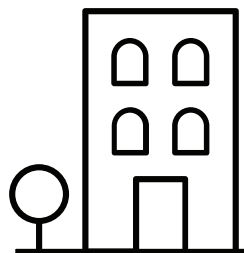
PUBLIC TRANSIT



16 minutes to the St. Catharines Via Rail Station

17 minutes to the St. Catharines GO Train Station

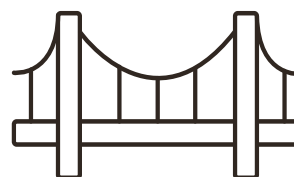
NEIGHBOURING TOWNS



15 minutes to St. Catharines

24 minutes to Niagara Falls

CROSS-BORDER FUN



34 minutes to Rainbow Bridge

1 hour + 6 minutes to Buffalo, NY



Rainbow Bridge, Niagara Falls

School Report



Schools play a major role in the growth of families and are often one of the most important considerations when buying a new home. To help Legacy homeowners navigate through their new school options, we've put together a guide on all things education. Empire Legacy falls under the District School Board of Niagara (DSBN).

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Quaker Road Public School

Address: 333 Quaker Rd, Welland, L3C 3G7

Grades: JK – Grade 8

Extra Curriculars & Sports Teams: Glee Club, Robotics, Writing Club, Badminton, Basketball, Cross Country, Soccer, Three Pitch, Track and Field, Volleyball

7 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

Glendale Public School

Address: 24 Farnham Ave, Welland, ON L3C 3R1

Grades: JK – Grade 8

Extra Curriculars & Sports Teams: Badminton, Basketball, Chess Club, Choir, Cross-Country, Rugby, Soccer, Volleyball

10 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

Welland Centennial Secondary School

Address: 240 Thorold Rd, Welland, ON L3C 3W1

Grades: Grade 9 – 12

Extracurriculars: Animation Club, Chess Club, Coding Club, Culture Club, Dance Team, Student Council, Theatre Tech Club

Sports Teams: Badminton, Baseball, Basketball, Football, Golf, Hockey, Rowing, Rugby, Swimming, Volleyball

11 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

E.L. Crossley Secondary School

Address: 350 Highway 20, Fonthill, L0S 1E0

Grades: Grade 9 – 12

Extra Curriculars: Chess Team, Model Builders, Ski Club, Student Council

Sports Teams: Badminton, Basketball, Cross-Country, Curling, Golf, Hockey, Lacrosse, Tennis, Rowing, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Volleyball, Wrestling

12 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

Catholic Schools

The Niagara Catholic District School Board can help you navigate the enrollment process for Catholic schools in Thorold. Contact them at (905) 735-0240.

Local Schools Include:

- St. Alexander Catholic Elementary School
- St. Charles Catholic Elementary School
- Denis Morris Catholic High School
- St. Michael Catholic High School

French Immersion Schools

Niagara's strong commitment to French-Canadian culture is reflected in its local French school options. Empire Legacy is zoned to the Conseil Scolaire Catholique MonAvenir and has the following options for French-Catholic education

- École Élémentaire Catholique du Sacré-Coeur
- Garderie La Boîte à Soleil Fitch

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

With some of the best universities and colleges in the country, Southwestern Ontario is a hotspot of post-secondary education options that make the region the perfect site to achieve academic excellence.

go here

IF YOU WANT TO MAKE
THE NEXT BIG
DISCOVERY



BROCK UNIVERSITY

12 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

Brock is a comprehensive research university with more than 70 undergraduate, and 40 graduate and doctoral programs, including its school of business, faculty of education, and school of fine and performing arts. Brock also has one of the biggest co-op programs in the country, including placements in history, liberal arts and dramatic arts — facilitating future employment for graduates.

NIAGARA COLLEGE

8 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

With several campuses in the region, Niagara College is a leader in applied education and training, and ranks among Ontario's top colleges for student satisfaction. Niagara College is home to unique hands-on learning opportunities, such as Winery & Vineyard, Brewery, and Greenhouse degrees. It also maintains a commitment to future employment, with thousands of students engaging in co-op and field placements, and applied research projects.

go here

IF YOU WANT REAL
LIFE EXPERIENCE



go here

IF YOUR PASSION LIES
IN HEALTH OR SCIENCES



McMASTER UNIVERSITY

59 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

Ranked in the top 100 universities in the world, McMaster is research-focused, student-centred, and dedicated to pursuing excellence in teaching and research. McMaster is best known for its medical school, but their innovative inquiry-based Arts and Sciences programs are also notable.

MOHAWK COLLEGE

54 MINS FROM EMPIRE LEGACY

Renowned for its innovation and skilled graduates, Mohawk College is student-focused and committed to community engagement, including working with local employers to ensure graduate success. Mohawk also offers credential opportunities and a custom approach to learning, including blending online and on-campus learning, co-op and clinical placements, and labs. For continuing education, flexible opportunities, or a return to learning, Mohawk is where you should be.

go here

IF YOU'RE LOOKING
FOR FLEXIBILITY







AVALON
CALEDONIA, ON



EAU DU SOLEIL
TORONTO, ON



LUSH
STONEY CREEK, ON



MAVEN
TORONTO, ON



MAVERICK
TORONTO, ON



CANALS
WELLAND, ON



RIVERLAND
BRESLAU, ON



WYNDFIELD
BRANTFORD, ON



E
EMPIRE

BUILDING HOMES FOR ALL OF LIFE'S
MOMENTS TO UNFOLD, SINCE 1993.

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